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11 December 1956

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, IOTAC

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Register of Soviet Electronics Equipment

1. Request IOTAC consider the requirement for, and establishment of, an all-source register of Soviet electronic equipment. (Electronics equipment considered here is limited to: equipment used in radio and wire communication, and radio and radar navigation and detection devices).

2. At the present time no known reference exists which meets the requirements of the intelligence community. Several offices of this Agency and of agencies of the military are known to have compiled individual card files on equipment which are tailored for their particular requirements. No one of these compilations is believed to be complete or "all source", which is probably due to their limited collection capabilities and relatively narrow interest areas.

3. It appears that a central collection point for receipt of select material from all sources, a qualified group for processing and compiling the resulting intelligence, and a publishing and distribution unit, could produce an intelligence reference aid of far more value than is being accomplished by the individual efforts of a number of offices.

4. Should IOTAC consider this proposal favorably, it is suggested that a refined version be presented the EIC Subcommittee on Electronics and Telecommunications for their comments, recommendations and action. The broad representation of the EIC appears ideal for coordination purposes and gaining support of the potential contributors.

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